

## Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 DAR ES 00396 301238Z

ACTION NODS-00

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /001 W

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O 301100Z JAN 77 ZFF-4

FM AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 3876

S E C R E T DAR ES SALAAM 0396

NODIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, RH, TZ

SUBJECT: PRESIDENT NYERERE COMMENTS ON SECRETARY VANCE'S LETTER AND  
ON RHODESIAN SITUATION

REF: STATE 020460

1. SUMMARY: PRESIDENT NYERERE SAYS HE IS "VERY ENCOURAGED" BY SECRETARY VANCE'S LETTER, THAT IT IS IMPORTANT TO GIVE "NO COMFORT" TO SMITH AT THIS TIME, AND THAT VORSTER CANNOT BE RELIED UPON TO TOPPLE SMITH. HE ALSO PRESSES AGAIN FOR CONTINUED NEGOTIATIONS BETWEEN BRITISH AND AFRICAN NATIONALISTS, NOTING ROLE HE CONCEIVES FOR WHITES IN TRANSITION GOVERNMENT AND IN RHODESIA. END SUMMARY.

2. I DELIVERED SECRETARY VANCE'S LETTER (REFTEL) TO PRESIDENT NYERERE MORNING SUNDAY, JANUARY 30, AT HIS BEACH HOUSE. HE SAID HE WAS "VERY ENCOURAGED" BY IT. HE NOTED SECRETARY'S INTENTION HOLD PRESS CONFERENCE JANUARY 31 AND SAID HE THOUGHT IT IMPORTANT AT THIS TIME THAT SMITH BE GIVEN "NO COMFORT." HE ADDED THAT NO ONE HAS ANY RIGHT TO EXPECT MIRACLES FROM WEST BUT HOPED THAT WE WOULD PROCEED WITH REPEAL BYRD AMENDMENT.

3. IN SUBSEQUENT DISCUSSION OF RHODESIAN SITUATION, NYERERE CONCENTRATED ON THEME THAT NO HELP SHOULD BE EXPECTED FROM  
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VORSTER. NYERERE BELIEVED THAT AS EARLY AS 1974 VORSTER HAD SINCERELY WANTED CHANGE IN RHODESIA, I.E., INDEPENDENCE AND MAJORITY RULE, BUT THAT VORSTER WAS STRONGLY BOUND BY HIS OWN POLITICAL NECESSITIES. VORSTER HIMSELF HAD SAID THAT THE LONGER SITUATION DRAGGED ON AND THE MORE WHITES THAT WERE KILLED IN RHODESIA, THE MORE LIKELY IT WOULD BE THAT HE WOULD HAVE TO SUPPORT THE WHITES THERE. SITUATION WAS DRAGGING ON AND VORSTER'S

FREEDOM OF ACTION WAS SEVERELY LIMITED.

4. US SHOULD NOT COUNT ON VORSTER TO BRING SMITH AROUND. VORSTER NEEDED TO BE DISCOURAGED A BIT TOO. US SHOULD SAY TO HIM: DON'T PROP US SMITH; STAND CLEAR OF HIM. YOU WOULD RATHER SEE SETTLEMENT AND MAJORITY RULE; WE ALL WOULD EXCEPT SMITH. HE IS ONLY ONE WHO WANTS TO PROLONG SITUATION. DON'T GIVE HIM ANY ENCOURAGEMENT.

5. IN COMMENTING FURTHER ON HIS EARLIER PROPOSITION THAT CONTINUED BRITISH-AFRICAN NATIONALIST TALKS ARE ESSENTIAL, NYERERE SAID THAT SMITH SHOULD BE IGNORED IN THESE. AIM SHOULD BE "HONORABLE SETTLEMENT REASONABLY ACCEPTABLE TO REASONABLE WORLD OPINION AND TO REASONABLE WHITES IN RHODESIA." THIS MEANT A CONSTITUTION THAT ACCEPTS WHITES AS CITIZENS AND A TRANSITION GOVERNMENT WITH WHITES IN IT.

6. THERE COULD BE NO SETTLEMENT WITHOUT SMITH'S DEPARTURE, NYERERE SAID. THE AIM WAS TO GET BRITISH AND FUTURE LEADERS OF THE COUNTRY TO AGREE ON A SETTLEMENT. FUTURE LEADERS SHOULD INCLUDE WHITES LIKE TODD AND VALERY (?). BRITISH SHOULD NOW GO AFTER THESE PEOPLE, LINE THEM UP TO PARTICIPATE, AND NKOMO, MUGABE, AND THE FIVE FRONT LINE STATES WOULD COOPERATE. ONCE EVERYONE IS ALLIED AND AGREED, SMITH WILL BE ISOLATED AND FORCED TO STEP DOWN BY CONTINUED GUERRILLA PRESSURE AND WORLD OPINION.

7. NYERERE WAS IN PLEASANT, RELAXED MOOD, OBVIOUSLY PLEASED THAT, AS HE PUT IT, HE HAD LEARNED SO PROMPTLY AND CLEARLY WHERE NEW US ADMINISTRATION STOOD. HE INDICATED HAPPINESS AT AMBASSADOR  
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YOUNG'S UPCOMING VISIT AND SAID HE WOULD PROBABLY SEE HIM AND ME NEXT ON ZANZIBAR. RIGHT NOW, HE WAS TRYING TO COPE WITH KENYA'S "NATIONALIZATION" OF EAST AFRICAN AIRLINES. PERHAPS, HE SAID WITH A GRIN, "WE SHOULD DEMAND COMPENSATION."  
SPAIN

SECRET

NNN

## Message Attributes

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